













## WEST EUROPE

## Corsica's new Prefect looks for reasons behind island's unrest

From Richard Wigg  
Paris, Aug 29

M. Jean Rioliacci, the new Prefect of Corsica, who has been given wide powers by President Giscard d'Estaing to deal with the outbreak of violence today began a series of consultations with local leaders in the island.

After his meetings the Prefect will make a series of recommendations which the Government hopes will remove at least the chief causes of the violence by Corsican separatists in which three French policemen have been killed.

M. Poniatowski, the Minister of the Interior, indicated today that the Government is not thinking of sending a special mediator to Corsica or of using the "good offices" of any of the island's five parliamentarians.

M. Rioliacci is the first Corsican to be chosen to serve as Prefect in the island since the time of Napoleon III, more than a century ago.

Until now it has been a strict rule that Prefects must never serve in their native regions in order to remain impartial.

In choosing M. Rioliacci as Prefect the Government has admitted tacitly that Corsica is different from the mainland French departments.

Bastia was the scene of rioting early yesterday in which a policeman was killed and 16 people injured. It has been quiet for the past 24 hours. More disturbances have been feared.

Today M. Rioliacci first saw M. Michel Pierucci, Mayor of Corte, who has criticized the effects of over-centralized government by Paris on Corsica, and who last week urged the Prime Minister to consider a political solution to Corsica's problems.

M. Pierucci told reporters after seeing the Prefect that he was somewhat more optimistic.

He added that he sensed the President's intervention yesterday had brought a "turning away from the policy of intransigent repression" of the Minister of the Interior.

Whether concessions will be made on the political level is one of the main questions arising from the new Prefect's mission. A senior French police official is to take over co-ordination of the security forces in the island. This is one of a French Prefect's normal responsibilities and its absence will leave M. Rioliacci a clearer negotiating role.

The Government itself is divided on Corsican policy. While M. Chirac evidently sides with M. Poniatowski in resisting proposals to give greater autonomy to the regions, M. Lecanuet, the Minister of Justice, today publicly declared his belief, for the second time this week, that "the only true answer to the autonomism is regionalism." In the background is the old controversy of General de Gaulle's proposal for decentralization which was rejected in the 1969 referendum.

There are proposals to give the present regional assemblies, set up in 1972 with very little real power, the financial power at present held by prefects and for the direct election of such assemblies.

Edmond Simeoni, leader of the autonomist movement Action for the Renaissance of Corsica (ARC) which was banned by the French Government on Wednesday, faces the penalty on two of the charges preferred against him yesterday by the State Security Court. He is alleged to have been the ringleader of the far-right group which shot and killed two gendarmes on a motorway near Bastia a week ago. Eight other people have been charged with him. This trial will inevitably put a strain on moves towards political conciliation in Corsica.

The Socialist Party, meanwhile, has called for the resignation of M. Poniatowski "in the interest of national unity." The call was quickly endorsed by the Communists.



Mrs. Julia Jacobs (left) wife of Mr. David Jacobs, the broadcaster, who was killed in a car accident in Spain, and Mrs. Caroline Marsh, wife of Mr. Richard Marsh, chairman of the British Railways Board, who was seriously injured.

## Paris flexible on plan for monetary talks

From Richard Wigg  
Paris, Aug 29

Before flying to Washington today, M. Fourcade, France's Minister of Finance and Economics, indicated that Paris is willing to abandon its original proposal for a five-power summit meeting to discuss international financial problems and possibly replace it with a meeting at ministerial level.

Officials emphasized that no decision had yet been taken, but said they expected that a choice of approach would be made by the five countries concerned: the United States, Britain, West Germany, Japan and France, next week during the International Monetary Fund gathering.

The summit proposal was first made early last month by President Giscard d'Estaing in an American newspaper interview. He said then that monetary problems lay at the heart of the Western industrial world's crisis and needed co-ordination at summit level.

But this idea ran into American resistance, especially from the Treasury, and this was reiterated by Mr. William Simon, the Secretary of the Treasury, in an interview earlier this week in *La Vie Française*.

The alternative forum, officials indicated today, could be ministers of finance of the five or a working group on the lines of the proposed international conference on energy and raw materials scheduled to open later this year.

Saudi Arabia has already proposed a fourth commission to tackle financial matters under this conference.

Paris, Aug 29.—French officials said today that several points of disagreement, including the role of gold and exchange rates, had still to be settled between the five countries involved in the proposed financial talks.

France still insisted on the need for a return of "fixed though adjustable" currency parities, they added. "And this has encountered considerable American hostility," one official said.

The officials quoted M. Fourcade as stating that the floating currency system was one of the elements blocking an international economic recovery.

In a drive to reflect their economies, the French and West German Governments are planning to pump in billions of francs and marks. They are also pressing the United States for a faster refilling of the American economy.

President Giscard d'Estaing is also encouraging hitches in his efforts to convene a wide-ranging conference on oil, raw materials and the problems of developing countries.

M. Giscard d'Estaing said last week that he hoped to receive final reactions to his proposals within a few days, but French officials said today some of the interested countries had still not replied.—Reuter.

## Experts say Venice has stopped sinking

From Our Correspondent  
Rome, Aug 29

The head of the Venice Geological Research Laboratory said today he believed the city had stopped sinking into the sea.

Measurements taken over the past three years indicate that the water pressure under the city is building up again. Professor Ottavio Vittori said. This is believed to have halted the sinking process which has been a main cause of the repeated floods threatening the city's survival.

The lowering of the land level is generally believed to be caused by excessive drainage of underground water from numerous wells in the area. "These indications are very promising for the future of Venice", Professor Vittori told me.

Geologists from the laboratory first had an inkling of the development when they found through optical measurements that the Venice land mass had risen a few millimetres in the past three years.

The difference was so small that it would have been passed off as a margin of error if two independent sets of subterranean measurements had not indicated a strong increase of water pressure under the city.

It appears that water is building up again in the impoverished underground courses, the balance of supply and demand is being restored by natural processes and the sinking tendency is "being reversed", Professor Vittori said.

"What is surprising is the speed at which the water system is recovering," he said. He did not expect Venice would sink any further.

## Swede defeats Karpov

Milan, Aug 29.—Anatoly Karpov, the Soviet world champion, suffered his first defeat today in the Milan international chess tournament at the hands of Ulf Andersson of Sweden.

However, Karpov remained at the top in the standings in a three-way tie with Kan Smekal of Czechoslovakia and Lajos Portisch of Hungary, with five points each after eight matches.—AP.

## Herr Schmidt in Denmark for economics talks

From Our Correspondent  
Copenhagen, Aug 29

Herr Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, visited the Jutland town of Sønderborg today for talks with Mr. Anker Jørgensen, the Danish Prime Minister.

Within the past week both countries have announced moves to stimulate their economies and reduce unemployment. Officials in Copenhagen said that economic policy would be a main subject of today's discussion.

The meeting continues the tradition of yearly talks between the German and Danish Social Democratic leaders. They were begun by Herr Willy Brandt.

## Police recapture prisoner after Ghent siege

Ghent, Aug 29.—Police using tear gas today recaptured an armed prisoner who had sought refuge with his 17-year-old wife in the office of the governor of Ghent prison, police said.

They added that Daniel Verheugen, aged 24, stabbed himself in the stomach as they closed in on the room amid a cloud of tear gas.

Mr. Verheugen was taken to hospital. His wife Myriam was unhurt, police said. The five-hour siege ended with the police seizing the prisoner. Officials and Mr. Verheugen's lawyer failed to talk him into giving up the gun.

Police said the affair began

after Mrs. Verheugen had smuggled a pistol and a hunting knife into the prison when she came on a visit.

Mrs. Verheugen started a 10-year sentence on Friday for inciting his wife to commit murder. The action began when Mrs. Verheugen was visiting her husband in the prison library. She produced a letter and held it over the warders while the couple ran into the offices of the prison governor near by.

Mrs. Verheugen was released from prison on Friday with a three-month suspended sentence on charges relating to those for which her husband was convicted.

## EEC's milk and butter mountains go up and up

From Our Own Correspondent  
Brussels, Aug 29

With every likelihood of a milk shortage in Britain this winter, the rest of the European Community is confronted with a record surplus of dairy produce.

Figures published in Brussels today show that the Community's skimmed milk mountain has risen to 966,000 tons from about 750,000 tons about six weeks ago. France and West Germany are responsible for about two-thirds of the surplus with present stocks of 333,000 and 312,000 tons respectively.

At the same time, the butter "mountain" has grown to 283,000 tons from 205,000 tons last month. About a third of this is stored in France, mainly in private stocks.

Ironically, EEC farm experts are hoping that the continuing

drought over much of Europe which is partially to blame for the surplus in Britain, will help to reduce the embarrassing glut elsewhere.

The surplus in most parts of the Community is the result of a fall in milk consumption in some member countries and to large stocks in other producer countries like the United States, Australia, New Zealand and Canada. This has brought world prices down and discouraged overseas sales by the Community.

Last month, Mr. Pierre Lardinois, the European Commissioner for Agriculture, urged member countries to introduce measures to combat a surplus which he predicted would reach nearly a million tons by the end of the year. But most of the commissioner's suggestions were shelved by ministers of agriculture of the Nine at their last monthly session.

## OVERSEAS

## Compromise on Sinai listening posts clears way for accord

From Moshe Brilliant  
Tel Aviv, Aug 29

The conclusion of an interim agreement between Egypt and Israel appeared imminent today after a compromise settlement had been reached in the controversy over the posting of American civilians between the lines in Sinai.

The Israelis had proposed that American civilian technicians man six listening posts in the Giddi and Midra passes which are to become part of a buffer zone. This would be in addition to the presence of United States technicians in stations to be operated by Israelis and Egyptians.

It is of course, the Vietnam experience that is posing a real dilemma here for some, plus the other side of the Vietnam coin that Israel has always represented.

Israel's very existence may have depended on America down the years, but this has always been implicit. And the whole thesis of the massive aid given to Israel has rested on the proposition of it being the one ally that could always look after itself without American troops.

The coming debate is going to compel some revision of past positions. Purists among the Vietnam doves are going to insist that placing American technicians between the two antagonists is the slippery slope of intervention all over again.

Some former doves are already quietly backing away from such absolutism, accepting that there is no other choice, that Israel would trust no other country, and reasoning that the decision to affirm an American presence by specific appropriation of funds will be a "conscious" action of the kind Congress was never asked to make at the time of the first Vietnam deployment.

With most Congressmen still away from Washington little opposition has been heard, though the usual reservations are being expressed. One who has "grave" reservations is Senator Henry Jackson, who is almost more pro-Israel than the Israelis.

As a presidential candidate he has difficulty shunning his championing of Israel as the one ally that stands alone. But there seems little doubt he will come round, after the debate.

Fred Emery writes from

## Egyptian move to silence critics in Arab world

From Paul Martin  
Alexandria, Aug 29

In a move principally aimed at its critics in the Arab world, Egypt today sought to inject an element of last minute suspense into the fast maturing mission of Dr. Kissinger. As it prepared for what is expected to be the American Secretary of State's last full talks in Egypt on the new Sinai accord, it gave a warning against "speculation and rumours" that the agreement was "in the bag".

The warning came from Mr. Taha Badir, the official spokesman, who set out to give the impression that an Egyptian all clear was still necessary before the accord was possible. However, he added that this did not dull in any way

Washington: Israel's intention to defer signing, as distinct from initialising, the pending Sinai agreement until the United States Congress has approved the interposition of American technicians at the early warning stations was welcomed today in knowledgeable Capital Hill quarters.

There is little doubt that Israel will get the strong approval from Congress to which it is accustomed. But Israel recognition of where the real guarantees in American foreign policy now lie is seen as both deferential and prudent in the light of Vietnam experience.

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The non-aligned representing nearly world's people and a poor world, also b them preliminary concerning the raw under the sol of their nations. 1 possal appeared to b by the experience nations and their ca

the optimistic predictions made by President Sadat after yesterday's talks with Dr. Kissinger.

Although the official line is an important element for both sides as they prepare to take the plunge, the Egyptians have made clear all along their fear that last-minute obstacles could cause the deal to collapse. Mr. Badir linked his against speculation about the fate of the talks with a reaffirmation of Egypt's Arab stance.

Throughout, the Egyptians have worried that the political quid pro quo they have given in return for a new Sinai withdrawal would arouse the hostility of the Arab world. "Whether Egypt answers yes or no depends on whether this agreement will realize a gain for the Arab position or not," Mr. Badir said.

## S Yemen asked for information on British pilot

By Our Diplomatic Correspondent

The Foreign Office has asked South Yemen for information about the British pilot who is being held there after a forced landing, and has requested consular access.

It is understood that the pilot, Mr. Anthony Evans, landed in a light aircraft last Sunday after running into bad weather which caused instrument failure, on a flight between Abu Dhabi and Oman.

Mr. Terence Clark, acting head of the Middle East department of the Foreign Office, yesterday called Mr. Muhammad Mursad Obad, the Chargé d'Affaires of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, to press for the release of Mr. Evans. The South Yemen radio asserted that he has broken civil aviation regulations.

## Opposition group winds case against Gandhi Iyer

Delhi, Aug 29.—The hastily convened session of Parliament which nullified the conviction of Mrs. Gandhi, the Prime Minister, for electoral offences was unconstitutional and illegal, Mrs. Gandhi's opponents argued in the Supreme Court today.

Winding up their five-day presentation, those opposing Mrs. Gandhi said all proceedings of the session of Parliament which nullified the conviction were invalid because some Opposition parliamentarians were unlawfully jailed and prevented from participating.

Mr. Shant Bhushan, acting for the opposition group, told the foreign press after the session that the political fate of the Prime Minister could be determined by the court.

If the case goes against her completely, it may make things very difficult for her, Mr. Bhushan said. "But it rules in her favour," he said.

Lawyers for Mrs. Gandhi due to begin their plea today and take a week to develop their case. The court will then arguments and a judgment on the validity of the amendment is expected in mid-September.

The Prime Minister's case earlier in the week Parliament. Mrs. Gandhi "above the means of an amendment was unconstitutional, and completely outside the concept of law."

In a recent television view, Mrs. Gandhi, who if she would abide by a Court verdict, avoided answer.—AP.

## PVC containers banned as cancer risk

Washington, Aug 29.—The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) announced plans yesterday to halt the packaging of many food items in certain kinds of plastic because the material has the potential for causing cancer.

Mr. Alexander Schmidt, the FDA Commissioner, said the proposal to limit the use of Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC), the second largest plastic used in food packaging, was initiated because the FDA and the scientific community agreed that vinyl chloride posed certain risks to human health.

The proposal would in effect ban most of the present packaging on luncheon meats, for example, and discontinue the use of plastic bottles for such things as salad dressing and vegetable oil.

The FDA decided for the time being at least, that certain forms of plastic made of polyvinyl chloride, such as: that used to wrap frozen meat and fruits, would be permitted in grocery stores.

The basic distinction drawn by the FDA is between rigid or semi-rigid plastic, which is pleated or fluted, and the rigid or semi-rigid material.

Dr. Sidney Wolfe, director of the Health Research Group, a private organization established by Mr. Ralph Nader, which is in the forefront of the fight to ban polyvinyl chloride, criticized the FDA for failing to ban all plastic packaging made with polyvinyl chloride.

There was a significant amount of cancer-causing residue from polyvinyl chloride made from other packaging, Dr. Wolfe said.

Polyvinyl chloride is made from vinyl chloride, which has been shown in the last two years to have caused at least 29 cases of a very rare and fatal cancer of the liver.

In the proposal the FDA found that the carcinogenic potential of vinyl chloride, upon ingestion, is already sufficiently well docu-

mented to warrant a determination that it may, if ingested, be carcinogenic to humans. However, the FDA said a type of polyvinyl chloride essentially free of vinyl chloride, because it is heated, is applied to food, and rigid or semi-rigid plastic.

Dr. Wolfe, who disputes findings, said that although fresh meat is wrapped in vinyl chloride, he added there was no way for consumers to recognize when it was wrapped in and he mentioned the FDA to make a list of all foods put in the material.

A spokesman for the U.S. of the Plastics Industry group plans to ask the for full hearings on the issue. The industry group has been in a campaign on the proposed legislation before the FDA announces its final decision. It is hoped the deadline would be extended if the request for a hearing is granted.—New Times News Service.

## Remand after months in jail

Mons, Aug. 29.—James Creagan, aged 25, an Irishman, was remanded in custody for a month by a court in Mons today on charges of offending Belgian security laws.

Mr. Creagan, who has spent 15 weeks in prison awaiting trial, was arrested on May 17 by Nato security forces inside the perimeter of the airfield of Nato's main European military headquarters, near Mons. His lawyer, Maître Françoise

Brandes, told reporters after the hearing that it could be another two or three months before her client was brought to trial.

He has been charged with offences against the external security of the Belgian state, including photographing military installations. Mr. Creagan said in earlier court appearances that he was merely an aircraft spotter practising his hobby when he was arrested.—Reuter.

## Theologian foresees a coloured Pope

Vienna, Aug. 29.—Professor Karl Rahner, a West German Jesuit, who is one of Europe's leading theologians, has suggested that the Papal See could be transferred from Rome to any other country and that a coloured Pope was a realistic possibility.

In an interview with *Allé Welt*, a periodical issued by the Papal Missionary Works in Austria, Professor Rahner, who is holding posts at an Austrian and several West German universities, said on the question of a Pope's ethnic origin: "I am not a clairvoyant predicting the future, and we may well leave to the year 2000 the concern about whether an African or an Asian becomes Pope."

But he added: "However,

basically it is absolutely conceivable and sensible that a coloured man once becomes Pope. I'd like just as much an African as Pope as an Italian."

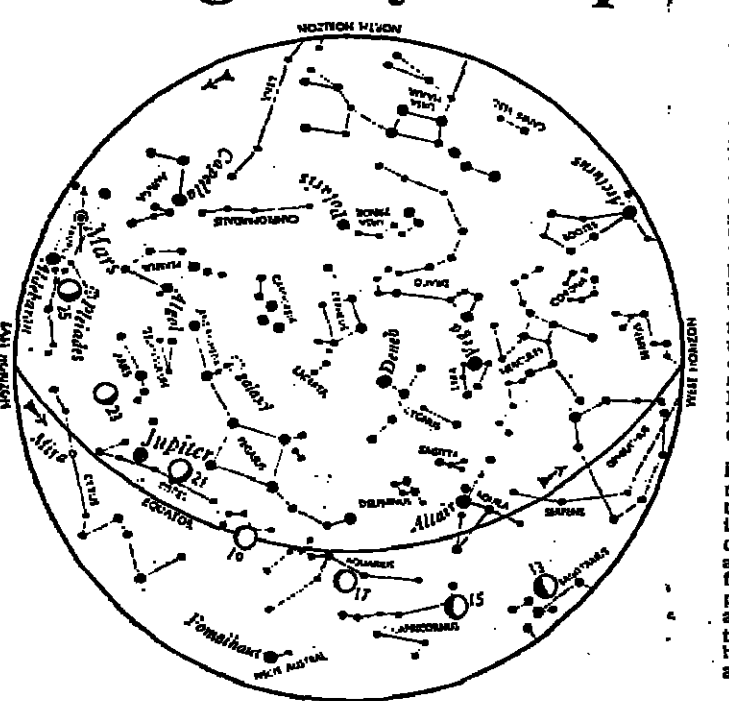
The professor, who is an expert on church dogma and has a record of being outspoken on many issues regarding contemporary church life, recalled that theologians attending the first Vatican Council agreed to differ on whether the pontiff must necessarily live in Rome.

At that time there were theologians who tied the Pope's primacy indisputably to the Roman See so that they even believed that Rome, as the see of the head of the church, could never, for theological reasons, completely vanish from the Earth through an earthquake."

He added: "I believe this is not correct. The church needs a supreme shepherd. St. Peter's office must always be present in the church. But where the concrete seat of the supreme shepherd is—that is a question which is left to the church itself, and which must be decided in a given case by the holder of that office. I believe the Pope might easily declare for example: 'I transfer now the primatial see of the church to Manila.'"

Professor Rahner also noted the decline of the Catholic Church in Europe. In 1900 only 15 per cent of Catholics were living in what is today the Third World. The present total was 50 per cent and would be at least 60 per cent by the year 2000.—AP.

## The night sky in September



The diagram shows the brighter stars that will be above the horizon in the latitude of London at 53° 11' N, at the beginning of the month, the middle and the end of the month. The diagram is oriented with North at the top. The text around the diagram provides information about the positions of the Sun, Moon, and various stars and constellations for the month of September.

By Our Astronomical Correspondent  
Mercury will be at evening elongation on the 13th, but will set too soon after the Sun to be observable.  
Venus is a morning star drawing away from the Sun quite rapidly and brightening as the month goes on. By the end of the month it will be over 25° above the horizon at sunrise, in the south-east, magnitude 2.2. The crescent phase should be discernible with binoculars, particularly as the sky brightens.  
Mars is nominally a morning star in Taurus, but it has before 21st. Moon near it on the 27th.

Jupiter is a prominent object for most of the night, retrograding in Pisces. Moon near it on the 22nd.  
Saturn is still a morning star but will be rising before midnight by the end of the month. Moon near it on the morning of the 3rd.  
Uranus is still lingering in the evening twilight. Neptune is an evening star but getting close to the twilight area.

The Moon: new, 5d19h; first quarter, 12d12h; full, 20d12h; last quarter, 28d12h. Algol: approximate times of events: minima are 4d0h (1 am EST), 6d21h, 26d22h and 29d19h. The

equinox, when the Sun will cross the Equator from north to south, is at 23d15h.  
comet, Kobayashi-Bergelt-Millon (1975), was visible during August. Its coming was announced in July, but a combination of mist and moonlight prevented your seeing it. It is now confirmed how well it could be seen until August 1. It proved barely visible to the naked eye but with ordinary 8x30 binoculars, and was a hazy disk brightening towards the centre but with no tail. It is now close to the horizon over the North Sea, the light of the lowest two stars of Ursa Major on the August map) between 21d00h and 21d05h, nearest the Sun and close to the orbit of Mercury, on the 5th.

The watery constellations introduced last month are now more in evidence. Capricornus, the sea goat, crosses the meridian in mid-evening. This peculiar creature is depicted in old maps as a kind of animal mermaid, the fore and being a goat and the hind part of a fish. The two stars closest obliterated on our map by the Moon for the 15th form the horns and, forgetting the imagery, are worth binocular study.  
Following it in the east is Aquarius, the water carrier. The figure is that of a man pouring water out of a pot, and was associated with the rising of the Nile; the river overflowing when he tipped his pot to fill it. The water pours into the mouth of the Southern Fish, represented by the star Fomalhaut. This white star, 22 light-years away, is the most southerly first magnitude star visible from Britain.  
East of Aquarius, and like it having a Babylonian origin and a Greek legend, is Pisces the fishes. The Moon for the 19th is in one fish and the other is near the J of Jupiter, with a long string of stars joining them and the planet greatly dominating them all.  
South of Pisces lies Cetus the whale, the sea monster sent to devour Andromeda and turned into stone by Perseus. The head is to the east, with Mira in the neck. This famous variable star is not visible to the naked eye. Last of the watery line is the River Eridanus but that does not yet appear in the evening sky.



















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New York PO/Boulez  
Usher Hall, Edinburgh

## William Mann

Pierre Boulez, having only just given up the RSO Symphony Orchestra, has brought his transatlantic orchestra, the New York Philharmonic, on a European tour. At the Edinburgh Festival this week they gave two concertos reflecting Boulez's declared concern to implement the standard symphonic repertoire not only with recent works which may or may not become favourites eventually, but also with classic masterpieces of the early 20th century.

On Thursday the NYPO began with three movements from Berlioz's *Romeo and Juliet* symphony (reordered unashamedly as Boulez has done in London). The love scene had scarcely begun before the music of the New York Philharmonic section loomed upon the ear, firm-edged, perfectly unashamed in two-part writing, and distinguished by an aristocratic style of music-making that can only be called classic. In Boulez's *Concerto for Orchestra* the cellos, sometimes split into seven distinct parts, again captured special attention for the beauty and intelligence of their playing. They seemed to be the orchestra's current stars. But the brass section is still, including horns, extremely fine, as we heard in the close of Stravinsky's *Petrushka* (in its original scoring) and in the slow music of Carter's concerto just after the whitewashed high-pitched scherzo.

This was a cunningly compiled programme: at every turn in each item some detail or two revealed the lofty omnipotence of the violins in Berlioz's "Queen Mab" and the Capulet's party, then even more in the Carter, the first and second movements of the *Petrushka* section in all three items, the poised ecstatic state of the principal flute in *Petrushka*.

I did not always like the tutti sound, coarse and hollow at the last climax of the Berlioz, nor the suspicion of haste which confused articulation and ensemble once in "Queen Mab" and once in Stravinsky's *Shrove Tuesday*. Those were of Boulez's making and it must be said they fell in with his no-nonsense approach to the Berlioz and Stravinsky works, admirably expository but quite cold—he made *Petrushka* sound totally un-Russian and could more aptly have applied his reading to Stravinsky's equally alienated 1947 *Agony*. Boulez's value in control and illumination was thoroughly proven in his masterly account of the Carter, a brilliant intellectual construction, four convulsed movements, interwoven into one musical organism, which nevertheless exerts a truly marvellous physical and brilliant dramatic effect—warm as well as thrilling in this performance which the composer attended.

## ART EXHIBITIONS

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# The American mus

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## Bridge

## Vest pocket dictionary

stant Guide to Bridge by Hugh Kelly (Ward Lock, 70s) is a handy reference book, based on research by Culbertson, Goren and others, supplemented by the author's personal experience. Rules for opening bids, responses and rebids are clearly laid out and there is sound guidance on play.

The value of any summary in its presentation because it is somewhat stale, concentrated and, as Kelly himself says, "not a bridge book". It is a good book to have on the table, but it is not a book to read.

The extent to which you would harness yourself to the principles outlined is another matter. There is excessive emphasis on point count valuation (with no consideration of the value of a bid) and on the use of a "good hand" as a guide to a bid.

The book is a good one to have on the table, but it is not a book to read. It is a good one to have on the table, but it is not a book to read. It is a good one to have on the table, but it is not a book to read.

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Edward Mayer

## Chess

## Salad days at Marlow

Last week, in a fit of depression induced by the death of good games at the British Chess Championship, I went to the Marlow Chess Club, a small club in the town of Marlow, Bucks. To make some sense of the game, I went to the Marlow Chess Club, a small club in the town of Marlow, Bucks.

Indeed it is more than possible that just because I myself have played in weekend congresses that I have created a prejudice against them in my own mind. The necessity of cramming so many games in a short period (in most of them you have to play six games in a weekend) has resulted in a sort of indigestion as far as I am concerned. But this does not mean that such events cannot be well enjoyed and hence enjoyed by other people of less delicate stomachs.

I am writing these lines on Sunday during the fifth round of the Marlow weekend congress which, since the normal venue at Marlow is not available, is being played at the Amersham Community Centre this year. From the general atmosphere of harmony prevailing here I deduce that people are well satisfied with this weekend system, always provided that, as indeed it is here, it is efficient and friendly. Both these provisions are essential since I have known congresses where the organizers were amiable but where the organization was practically non-existent. This can be infuriating. And it is equally bad to have efficient controllers who make no attempt to hide the iron of their efficiency behind a glove of velvet kindness. The organizers who hold the stern view that players are made for the rules and not the rules for the players, have taken his function: he should look for a job as govt at the nearest concentration camp.

Harry Golombek

Harry Golombek

Harry Golombek

Harry Golombek

## Gardening

## Getting value for money

Many of us have tried to grow ground-covering plants through which bulbs could push their way—thyme for example. It has not worked with me. Other plants in the rock garden have grown and gradually submerged the bulbs. I now accept if we wish to enjoy the many lovely bulbs, mostly spring flowering and doubly welcome on that account, we must devote special concern to them and put up with the gaps they leave when the leaves die down.

Now for the "good value" bulbs. First, daffodils for naturalizing. Here again consider your soil. On dry slopes, or quick draining light soils, you will have to water at some time in most springs until the foliage begins to turn brown. If you have a moisture retentive soil I would take a gamble and buy a sackful of daffodil bulbs offered by weight. Or, if you want a more interesting mixture, buy from a specialist bulb firm a collection of daffodils specially chosen for naturalizing.

Given favourable conditions, snowdrops and crocuses, scillas, chionodoxas, muscari, *Anemone hepatica* and *A. blanda*, blue bells, and the various alliums may be expected to increase with the years. Indeed, some alliums and muscari can be a nuisance, seeding themselves all over the place. For my choice, *Allium albidum*, which produces large heads of lilac flowers and charming dried seed heads, and the dwarf yellow *A. moylei* are the only ones worth growing, although there are others such as the dwarf pink *A. karwinskianum*, *A. ostroukianum*, another dwarf species with carmine flowers.

Tulips, in the main, do not live very long. The newer hybrid Darwin varieties which were the result of crossing the Darwin varieties with the huge *Fosteriana* tulips, are to my mind, the finest buy among the tulips. They come into bloom in late April. I plant them with Siberian wallflowers, the golden and orange forms of *Cheiranthus allioni*. As the tulips fade, the cheiranthus take over, so we have colour for well over a month.

The flowers are very large, and if the bulbs are planted six inches apart you still get a splendid show. The bulbs, too, are large, and they may be lifted, heated in, dried off and replanted for three or four years as I can personally

testify. Apeldoorn, scarlet, Beauty of Apeldoorn, orange, scarlet and yellow, Elizabeth Arden, rose, and My Lady, coral red, are all lovely varieties.

Tulips that may be expected to live for years without disturbance in a hot, dry, well drained position include *T. greigii*, *T. fosteriana*, *T. kaufmanniana*, and their varieties. Others that are worth trying are *T. serotina* and *T. praecox*.

Probably the cheapest bulbs in the catalogue are the Dutch irises. The Dutch irises flower in late May and early June. I will not dwell further on these irises as we expect to be making a special offer of the Dutch varieties next month.

Now let us consider some of the lesser known and, in some ways, more difficult bulbs. I am inordinately fond of all the bulbous irises—*I. reticulata*, *I. histrioides* and their varieties, and the yellow *I. danfordiae*. They need a dry sunny position. I think they have failed with me—failed to live more than a year or so, because we water our rock garden generally in the summer. If I had had the time, and had lifted and dried them off each year, I might have been able to persuade them to increase.

The erythroniums and the smaller species and varieties of fritillaria have not liked my light soil. Some of the finest groups of *F. meleagris* and its varieties I ever saw were growing in grass under trees on the driest of blue clay in the Reigate area. Both of these bulbs like a fairly moist situation, and it is said that on the drier soils planting erythroniums more deeply than usual—six inches deep—is desirable. Perhaps this would work, too, for fritillaries.

There are many more lovely bulbous plants, and I will return to this subject another day. I would, however, just touch upon the hardy cyclamen, among the most exquisite of bulbous or, to be strictly accurate, comarostem plants. Looking back, I recollect that the finest cyclamen I have ever seen have been growing in a fairly dense shade in Corsica or, nearer home, around the trunk of a tree in Cornwall and other southern counties. Do not think, however, that these plants are only for the milder, comparatively new growths of cyclamen, fuchsias and hydrangeas.

Roy Hay

Roy Hay

Roy Hay

## Saturday Bazaar

## Collectors

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**Antiques**  
JAIN ANTIQUES, 11-13, 15-17, 19-21, 23-25, 27-29, 31-33, 35-37, 39-41, 43-45, 47-49, 51-53, 55-57, 59-61, 63-65, 67-69, 71-73, 75-77, 79-81, 83-85, 87-89, 91-93, 95-97, 99-101, 103-105, 107-109, 111-113, 115-117, 119-121, 123-125, 127-129, 131-133, 135-137, 139-141, 143-145, 147-149, 151-153, 155-157, 159-161, 163-165, 167-169, 171-173, 175-177, 179-181, 183-185, 187-189, 191-193, 195-197, 199-201, 203-205, 207-209, 211-213, 215-217, 219-221, 223-225, 227-229, 231-233, 235-237, 239-241, 243-245, 247-249, 251-253, 255-257, 259-261, 263-265, 267-269, 271-273, 275-277, 279-281, 283-285, 287-289, 291-293, 295-297, 299-301, 303-305, 307-309, 311-313, 315-317, 319-321, 323-325, 327-329, 331-333, 335-337, 339-341, 343-345, 347-349, 351-353, 355-357, 359-361, 363-365, 367-369, 371-373, 375-377, 379-381, 383-385, 387-389, 391-393, 395-397, 399-401, 403-405, 407-409, 411-413, 415-417, 419-421, 423-425, 427-429, 431-433, 435-437, 439-441, 443-445, 447-449, 451-453, 455-457, 459-461, 463-465, 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George Hutchinson

# The lesson for Mr Wilson in a Commons teacup

Like Mr Clement Freud, the Liberal MP, many people would rather see Wedgwood, say, or Royal Worcester instead of Rosenthal in the House of Commons dining rooms, just as they prefer it on their own tables. Accordingly, one can understand the to-do over the substantial order placed with the German firm for the Palace of Westminster.

But how strong is the logic when the complaint is made by supporters of Britain's commitment to the EEC? If Mr Enoch Powell were to make it he could not be accused of illogicality or inconsistency, since he opposes our membership of the Community. It falls strangely, however, from the lips of established "Europeans" like Mr Freud, attached as they supposedly are to the promotion of ever-increasing trade between member countries.

The present outcry is just

the sort of thing that was bound to happen. It was also predictable that once continental manufacturers (and other commodities) started flowing more freely into the United Kingdom, the old protectionist instinct would quickly come to the surface. It is likely to take on fresh force as some British producers—more vulnerable to competition than others, I should have thought—are increasingly threatened in the home market.

While one can sympathise with our splendid English craftsmen in Stoke-on-Trent or elsewhere, they must surely recognise that the order from the House of Commons, however well intended, is the forerunner of many similar transactions that will affect other British industries as well. By virtue of our membership of the EEC, continental products must be expected to gain ground in this country: it is up to us

to offset or balance any resulting disadvantage by finding new trading opportunities across the Channel. Otherwise the European commitment might prove disastrous.

Having said that, it nevertheless behoves national institutions to uphold the best of our national skills and accomplishments. Thus every British ambassador should always have Rolls-Royce and English plate and cutlery on his table. He ought to wear English clothes. If he goes fishing, it should be with tackle made in this country. If he shoots, he should have a pair of English guns. The catalogue can easily be enlarged, such is the quality of so many British products. Since an ambassador's role is a representative one, it should be fully representative of what is best in his own country. One might say the same of the Mother of Parliaments.

Now Mr Wilson takes great pride, so we gather, in his handling of the European

policy finally sealed or consummated by the June referendum. By extension, it is his duty—and must surely be his aim, however well disguised—to ensure that the advantages implied in the policy are fully realized.

To do so, there is no alternative to helping British industry and commerce to compete on level terms with our European partners (still our rivals, too) by relieving them of at least some of the interference, control and taxation bedevilling them today and better calculated to stultify any system of independent productive enterprise.

As we understand them, Mr Wilson and Mr Hesley, together with most of their Cabinet colleagues, are reconciled to the maintenance of a mixed economy, never mind Mr Benn and his accomplices. But you cannot practise a mixed economy either honestly or successfully by badgering and

battering the private sector day in day out. The phrase "free enterprise" exactly represents the concept. Without a great measure of freedom, which is not the same thing as licence, enterprise cannot be expected to flourish. It can have no reality, or at best very little.

Mr Wilson is himself a man of enterprise—political enterprise (commercial, too, to the extent that he manages his sporadic literary business to good effect). I wonder how he would get on if he had Mr Hugh Jenkins and like-minded zealous nominating his Cabinet, searching him on the true Labour faith and otherwise breathing down his neck every day? The answer is: Not very well. That is rather the condition of British industry when distracted and beleaguered, and then fired into the bargain, by self-righteous, meddling government.

The Prime Minister might consult his own instincts and

conclude that the liberty—not licence—to which he is rightly entitled as the head of our most important free enterprise, the Queen's Government, would be equally welcome to those responsible for another arm of the state. They are, by and large, no less conscientious than he is.

I know a greengrocer who now imposes a charge of 12½p—that is to say half a crown—for deliveries, even over a short distance. Until recently the charge was 10p. You may be sure that before long he will want to raise it to 15p—or three shillings.

Will he be allowed to do so, under the Government's policy of price restraint? I should be surprised if anyone could stop him. This is probably one of many minor loopholes. Added together, a lot of minor loopholes may become a major gap.

Times Newspapers Ltd, 1975

## Mr de Valera: Winning power through the ballot box

The political contemporaries of Eamon de Valera in his days as leader of the Irish struggle for independence have long been dead. Some died peacefully and others were shot in the wars in which Mr de Valera played his part more than half a century ago. Yet the lesson his actions taught about the role of the politician in the Irish troubles is relevant to events in Northern Ireland today.

Mr de Valera's political career shows that while violence can destroy a government supported by all the authority of the Westminster Parliament, only the work of politicians accustomed to the tedious and sometimes devious use of conventional political institutions can bring about the restoration of public order in a troubled land.

Emmon de Valera became prominent as the leader of Sinn Féin, the political wing of the Irish republican movement. As president of the Irish Dail created in defiance of British authority in 1918, he was the chief head of the government on whose behalf the republican rebels fought. This made him sufficiently a rebel in Britain's eyes to justify a death sentence; his execution was stayed at the last moment.

Like many Irish politicians of his day and since, Mr de Valera initially put loyalty to the British Empire over lawful institutions of government. When the peace treaty between the Irish rebels and Britain was signed in 1921, Mr de Valera moved its rejection because the treaty, which he had not negotiated, had failed to make the Irish Free State a full republic.

Defeated in the Dail and subsequently in an Irish general election, Mr de Valera continued to take an anti-treaty line. So, too, did sections of the IRA. The result was a bloody civil war between former comrades in arms in 1922-23. More than 600 people were killed, including many leading figures in the independence movement. Mr de Valera was imprisoned for his activities.

The anti-treaty republicans, recognizing defeat, laid down their arms but did not abandon their republican aims. It is the heirs of these anti-treaty republicans who claim to be the IRA today.

From 1924 to 1932, Mr de Valera followed a tortuous road back to power by electoral means. He had to find a form of words to justify accepting the Free State's political status and resigned from Sinn Féin when that party refused to modify its diatribe opposition to a British presence in Ireland. Mr de Valera created a new political party, Fianna Fail. After three elections won power in the Dail in 1932 and Mr de Valera took office under a constitution that he had been up in arms against a few years previously.

The result was great political success for Mr de Valera and his party. Fianna Fail has governed Ireland for most of the time since 1932. Even more important, Mr de Valera's abandonment of a minority cause supported by violence brought civil peace to the republic. The man who first made his name as a political spokesman for armed rebels ensured substitution of ballots for bullets by a political leadership. Twentieth century politics emphasizes that this is no mean achievement.

In Northern Ireland, by contrast, the defeated Roman Catholic minority did not accept the institutions of the state in 1920 as Mr de Valera had done in 1921. The Nationalists pointedly refused the title of loyal opposition and

emphasized their preference for a 32-county Ireland. To Unionists, winners of war in the north, saw in sharing power with a man who wished to see the state they had created result in decades of exclusion and alienation. Stormont, which had served for the most part fully, did so without the aid of up to a third of its population.

Since 1968 Ulster repeatedly shown that destroy the institutions of civil government and public order. In 1968-69 gravely weak Stormont government's campaign of the 1 months following late August, 1971, showed British Army could coerce rebellious Ulster suspension of Stormont in March, 1972.

In May, 1974, the strike of the Ulster Workers' Council at other way of destroy tentions of a Westminster of Parliament. To a government is not a replacement. The civil war that stalked Ulster in 1968-69 haunts Belfast and years efforts have to rule Northern four different ways Stormont, direct Britain, a power-sharing with protestants, and by direct of a suspended rep assembly.

Within the North Convention today still like Mr de Valera prepared to break political ends. The Social Democratic Labour Party, such a Fit and Mr John Hume were prominent in marches banned by ment of the day. Devlin, another leader of the SDLP, was a republican, active from 1920 to 1945. All of these now firmly committed to politics.

The loyalists, too, have led to conviction. The Rev Ian Paisley, the Democratic Unionist twice sent to jail on Stormont regime. I turned to a Protestant, has demonstrated his one of the leading v.

Both Protestant as elected politicians, pete against armed influence, as was t. Ireland when Mr de rose to prominence. did are, above all to the prospect of p groups shooting the failure of the Brit ment, the responsible force, to break the l in May, 1974, under status of elected offi

The lesson that Mr offers to Irish politics there is greater revon for oneself as one's country by patics through the peatations of representment.

The British C might take a lesson: Valera's old enemies, the Nationalists, Mr Liam who led the Irish Fr the days of its civil men did their best t de Valera seek pow electoral means by with widespread p port, a harsh, ruthless victory. Stormont a minority that wish its way by force.

Professor Richa

## The winged bean that could help save the world

Washington

A big contribution towards solving the world shortage of food could be made by developing a hitherto little-known plant called *Tetragolobus*, a new Central and South America, and Asia. An international panel of eminent biologists and agricultural research workers, including Dr G. B. Masfield of the Department of Agricultural Science, Oxford, recommending a major development effort to turn *Psophocarpus Tetragolobus*, or the winged bean, into a main crop. The winged bean was only one of 50 minor legume plants to be studied in a search for new ones ideal for conditions in developing countries where cereals, soyabean, peanuts and other peas and beans are grown.

However, the potential food value of this plant seemed so outstanding that the experts have prepared a special report explaining its importance. The report, recently published by the National Academy of Science, Washington, in advance of the main survey on underexploited tropical plants with promising nutritional value. The attraction of the winged bean is that it is almost totally edible: the green pods, leaves, seeds and tuberous roots can all be consumed. It is a new Little research has been done into *Psophocarpus Tetragolobus*: but compared with the edible legumes cultivated on a wide scale, the winged bean appears to have a far higher protein content. This is attributed to the larger size and greater number of nodules on the roots by which it draws from the atmosphere a "fix" by the plant to become incorporated principally as protein. Immature pods can be eaten. According to the report they

are highly palatable like green beans. The similar to soy in co with an average of 34 protein. Compared with edible roots and tuber cassava's one per cent and sweet potatoes 1 per cent or yams two this is very attractive. have been grown at range of altitudes. In the bean responds to No genetic selection undertaken for small done so far. Nevertheless scientists are certain it could be multiplied. The important aspect tropical soils are often nitrogen: thus provide protein and vitamin. The plant is grown also sively as a backyard. Papua New Guinea and Southeast Asia. But it where it grows in large beans in Central America, the Caribbean Oceania and West Asia. The plant is unknown. The high protein on the bean reflects an al take nitrogen from sphere. It grows quickly to offer good source for some small-scale who might like to play enrich the soil with al. Existing knowledge winged bean and its var about that of the soy years ago at the time commercial introduction the United States.

Pearce W Science

## Sportsview

### Forest Hills, a fair test for all

They took the "jawn" out of the United States Lawn Tennis Association last March. After 94 years the USLTA became the USTA. They tore up a lot of grass at Forest Hills and put down seven new slate-grey hard courts with a loose top dressing, to match those already lining the periphery of the West Side Club.

While the United States Championships were in progress on grass, club members used to heck away on clay. These past few days, the roles have been reversed. Instead of concentrating on services and volleys (and struggling helplessly when the ball did startling things after hitting the ground), the celebrities have been working and sweating for their openings, conscious that the days of easy points were over.

As Americans never do anything half-heartedly, when they have nothing to do, they tossed in a few other changes, too. They installed floodlights and played by night as well as by day. They dropped the "sudden death" tie-break, in which a set or even a match could swing either way on the outcome of a single point. They introduced the more familiar and more fair 12-point system, which insists that one player should acquire a lead of two points.

Finally, they yielded to pressure from the players and agreed that, until the quarter-final round, the men should play the best of three sets instead of the best of five.

This last change meant that the championships lost some of the stature gained by the improvement in playing conditions. And nothing could be done about the noise that assaults the concentration at Forest Hills, or the litter that spreads along the promenades and offends the eye.

The most welcome, if drastically controversial, change concerned the courts. The new ones are faster than most of the loose-top surfaces prevalent in Europe, in harness with the lively balls in use at Forest Hills, they are producing a brand of tennis that may be a superb compromise between the grass of Wimbledon and the slow clay of Paris and Rome—and a better surface than either in that it is fair to every type of player.

Instead of being a poor imitation of Wimbledon, Forest Hills has become unique in marrying fast clay to its deep traditions and massive prize money (£138,500 this year). Of the "big three", Wimbledon has its grass, Paris its slow clay, Forest Hills its fast clay. Wimbledon provides the most spectacular women's tennis, Paris the most spectacular men's tennis. But in terms of providing a fair test for everyone—whether from Los Angeles or Prague, Mar del

Plata or Melbourne—Forest Hills may leap into top place.

In assessing the American revolution we should not be shocked by big conservatism—any more than, in other circumstances, we should allow ourselves to be rushed along by the principle of change for its own sake. The reactionary can be as tyrannical as the radical. The case for killing grass at Forest Hills was proved long ago. All the USTA and the West Side Club had to agree upon was the most practicable alternative to grass and the financial means for installing it. The USTA itself under pressure from the players, made it clear that unless the club came to terms, the championships could be moved elsewhere. The club came to terms.

With the advent of open competition and the flourishing growth of competitive tennis as a career, it became imperative that big money tournaments should be dominated by skill, rather than heavily influenced by the inconsistent bounces that often occurred at Forest Hills—especially when the shallow-rooted grass became pitted by hard wear. There were times when sections of the courts looked like a farmyard after the cows had come home on a wet day.

At the highest level of the game there was no room for inferior grass courts. Such great matches as occurred at Forest Hills—and there were many—were created in spite of the grass, not because of it. The change was a long time coming, but it had to happen. The United States Championships now have courts worthy of the tournament's stature and that of the men and women who play in it. On a wider front, Jan Kodes, in particular, has pointed out that the "grand slam", the achievement of winning the Australian, French, Wimbledon and United States championships in the same year, has been unbalanced and unfair in that every year the French was decided on grass, a minority surface. That criticism is no longer quite as valid. Nor should it be at a time when the mere prestige of the "grand slam" has been bolstered by huge financial incentives.

Inevitably, there must be speculation about the future of the Wimbledon and Australian championships. But both are played on exemplary grass courts the only kind of grass acceptable these days at the highest level. They also bring their traditions to the fore, though the virtues of the surface on which they are played. One day, perhaps, the difficulty and expense of maintaining grass in perfect condition may force the British and the Australians to follow the American example and install a better, more practicable surface. But there is no reason to suppose that this will occur in the foreseeable future.

For the moment, let us be grateful for the change at Forest Hills. Among other things, it has provided a new challenge to the incentive of a more battle-weary troops. After all, only one man and one woman will ever be able to say that they won the first United States Championships to be played on clay.

Rex Bellamy  
Tennis Correspondent

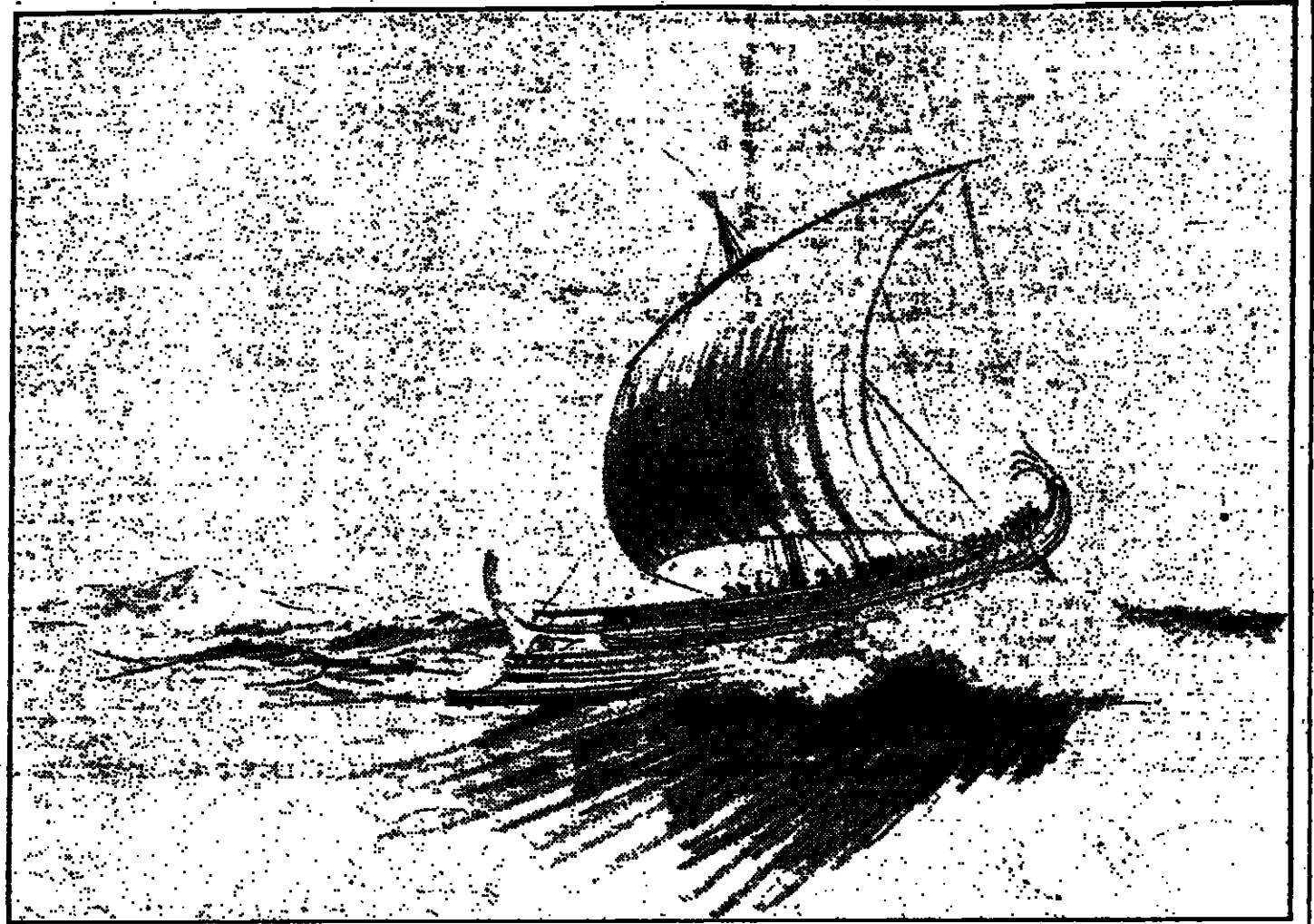


Illustration by Eric Leach

## Why we should include Greece's sailors in our vision of the Golden Age

Mr Sean McGrail, chief archaeologist at the National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, in a letter to *The Times* on August 16, gave a fascinating account of the research now gaining momentum into the boatbuilding methods and boat handling techniques in past ages. Apparently no one has yet discovered the identifiable remains of a Greek trireme warship of the type that was the backbone of Greek supremacy in the Mediterranean from the fifth to the third century BC. I, for one, can hardly wait for news that a trireme has been uncovered and scientifically documented.

Our present knowledge comes from conflicting descriptions, extant paintings, sculpture and coins, most of which lean heavily on artistic licence for their suitable presentation to the scale and shape of their compositions. There is, however, enough consistency to hint at a much more sophisticated manner of war than we have given the ancient Greeks credit for.

It is generally agreed that a trireme measured about 120 feet in overall length, probably no more than 20 feet in the beam and 6 feet in draught. It had a ram on the bow, and twin steering oars aft. The sail area seems to have been between 800 and 1,500 square feet.

My theory is that we have grossly underestimated the Greek's knowledge of sailing techniques. This will occur in the foreseeable future.

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At the same time a 30-voice male choir from Swansea is here to sing the Americans into submission, and one chorister gave them an insight into the power of the Welsh culture by confessing on CBS news that, faced with the choice of his wife or choir, he chose the choir.

This weekend 2,000 Americans with Welsh plasma in their veins descend on the New York Hilton to take part in the greatest North American Gymnastic Canu, the annual festival of song and sentiment, a ritual clutching at ever-thinning roots. Total immersion is aided by a mighty computer organ and by the Dylan Thomas industry.

No doubt it all helps to put Wales on the map, and in the long run it may spare Welshmen the anguish they have had this week of being pressured by clerks and telephone operators into the heresy of saying that their address is Swansea, Wales, England.

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Welsh radicalism played a significant part in the American Revolution. Fourteen Revolutionary generals had Welsh roots, as did 17 of the 56 signatories of the Declaration of Independence, including Thomas Jefferson, the third President. In the nineteenth century Welshmen were key workers and pioneers in the developing coal, iron, and slate industries of the United States. In Pennsylvania, a fifth of all Welsh-Americans lived in the 24-mile stretch, and the world Welsh came to mean coal miner. In 1815 Thomas Lewis, a Merthyr iron worker emigrated to America, taking newly-discovered techniques with him. His brothers joined him, travel-

arrangement of oars. When in battle, we are told, the sail was lowered, and so it might have been in calm weather. We have also been told that the setting of sail was a sign of defeat.

It is all very unconvincing, especially when we share the distress of modern rowers exhausted after 17 minutes in the Boat Race—four miles in smooth water, with the tide under them. No, the Greeks were sailors, and professionals at that, and they were sailing for their lives, not for the Auld Mug. They sailed triremes for centuries, improving their techniques and efficiency to serve and protect flourishing colonies.

After the battle of Salamis in 480 BC when they defeated the much larger Persian navy of Xerxes, spirits ran high. The Greeks dominated the Mediterranean for 200 years, taking great pride in their seamanship and skill as the British have done in their great days of sail, happily not yet entirely at an end.

The trireme was a development of the bireme and it is pictured with three banks of oars, and a "contraption of a sail". The picture we are given is always of a ship on an even keel—an ideal situation, but not always possible, even in the Mediterranean—and how far and how fast could a trireme travel by oars in the teeth of a force seven Meltemi wind? The name trireme applied to a warship having three rowing levels on each side (using ladder-type outriggers shown on most pictures so far discovered). A

simple diagram will suffice to show that even a slight heeling angle would render more than one or two rowing levels impracticable.

Most delineators drew a short most supporting a bending yard-arm with a number of braces leading aft, almost certainly used to control the camber of the sail and its incidence to the wind. Modern authorities on aerodynamics would agree that the square sail set with a taut luff standing away from the mast is superior to the same sail area set behind a mast of the dimensions which would be required for its support in those days.

As with many Greek practices, the square rig eventually reappeared after the Dark Ages, serving ships of the entire western world up to the nineteenth century, and including the clippers, some of whose records for sailing still stand. Yet it is still generally considered that the square sail was unsuitable for sailing to windward. Bearing in mind what was at stake, it is unthinkable that the rationally informed windward position or "weather gauge" had not in hundreds of years produced a fast and weatherly ship.

We do not know whether or not centre boards or lee boards were fitted to triremes, but it is quite obvious that the use of oars in such a manner as to prevent leeway must have been mastered by the Greeks. Records of us who sail today will know what an increase in speed can be achieved by auxiliary power

applied when beating to windward. And we also know what enormous benefits derive from the steady effect of sail, avoidance of seasickness being by no means the least of them.

So the quaint picture of a billowing sail and a few primitive seamen posed for the occasion on an unlikely hull is not commensurate with our admiration of the Golden Age of Pericles, of the men who built the Parthenon, of Alexander the Great, of Plato and Aristotle, of the Hellenistic Age. The men who sailed the triremes were clever, they were athletes, and they were competitive. My estimate of the record for a passage across the Aegean from Ephesus to Delos—100 miles—in seven hours, an average speed of over 12 knots, and much more impressive than the seven knots we are offered by many scholars.

I believe the classic offshore race began as the sun crossed the meridian at Ephesus where the magnificent Temple of Artemis radiated a proud encouragement to the contestants, many of whom had probably taken part in its construction—one of the Seven Wonders of the World. The excitement of the finish, as the sun set over Athens, radiating its golden light on the white marble colossus of Apollo, must have been at first a delight, but then an embarrassment to the wine merchants of Delos, to say nothing of the Delian Maidens.

Eric Leach  
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America today is maintained mainly by the national Gymnastic Canu; by Welsh groups, like the Welsh St David's Day Society of the Inland Empire, Washington, by a Welsh-American newspaper, and by some Welsh chapels. Only a handful of Welsh Americans have the old language transmitted to them.

Their forefathers lived on prayer and hard rack as they crossed the Atlantic. The present Welsh expedition crossed in different style, with the choir in full flight of song, with several parties going on and the captain and two of the cabin staff making their announcements in Welsh. Probably it was the first Welsh language transatlantic flight and, after a while, the whole thing resembled a bank holiday charabanc to Porthcawl. Those stern Welshmen who pioneered America, in the wagon and on the wagon, would have turned their graves to hear the air hostess say, "Does dim rhagor o garu?" ("We've run out of beer"), and see the stewardess that ran through the aircraft.

More than 1,000,000 Welsh people emigrated to the United States, but, unlike the Scots, the Irish, and the Italians and other ethnic groups, did not retain their distinctive identity so strongly. Probably they gave up a lot when they gave up their own language, and were more readily assimilated. Also there were fewer of them compared with other groups, who came in millions to retain their traditions and languages. Perhaps, too, the Welsh were less assertive and more compliant. The Welsh connection in

ling in a ship in which everyone on board was called Lewis, to say up ironworks with Welsh names like Dowdells and Tredegar.

Not only did the Welsh discover America, have great influence in shaping the republic, found its basic industries and provide four presidents and 30 state governors, but they also provided a public enemy No 1 in the menacing shape of Llewellyn Morris Humphreys (Murray the Hump) who, in the Prohibition era, graduated as one of Capone's gunbuds to become the guiding wind of the Capone gang, a master racketeer and terrorist.

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Trevor Fishlock

## How the Welsh are singing America into submission

New York

It is hard for a very small country to make an impact on a very large one. ("Wales?" said a wilding cab driver here. "You mean the fish, or them singing bastards?") Perhaps the most important function of Wales Week in New York, which aims to drum up trade and investment for England's neighbour, is to say that Wales exists. Inevitably, though, in New York, the city that dwarfs, the roar of the red dragon sounds mostly like the roar of a mouse.

Still, the invading force of Welsh is impressive enough for its size. There is a batch of businessmen out to sell and to attract dollar investment, a covey of craftsmen and manufacturers with a trade fair, plus a string of harps. There is a Welsh bishop to provide spiritual support, and there is the Secretary of State for Wales himself, talking to directors and investors. It is the most ambitious effort made to sell Wales in America.

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## ASQUES FACING DEATH

December 1970 General Franco yielded to strong international pressure and agreed to move to life imprisonment and death sentences passed on Basque extremists by a military tribunal. A similar internal campaign is now getting the way to persuade him to do the same for two more Basques, members of the same terrorist group, ETA, who have been condemned to death by a military tribunal, again in Burgos. There is a strong possibility this time, if the Supreme Court rejects, their appeal. General Franco, who has ruled Spain since 1939, is now more overtly authoritarian than he was. Since Franco's death, ETA has gained in its activities, clearly posing a serious challenge to the order, and not only in the Basque country. By assassinating Franco's prime minister, Adolfo Suárez, and by other political acts, the Basque government has been, on the one hand, to meet force with force, and on the other, to begin his administration with promises of a certain liberalisation. But by the end of last year, after the dismissal of the information minister, Adolfo Suárez, and the publication of the new law on political associations (which dismissed hopes for the legal development of a multi-party

system), it was clear that the most conservative forces within the regime still had the support of General Franco himself and that no true liberalisation could occur so long as he remained in power. This year, in response to a new wave of assassinations in the Basque provinces, the police have been given free rein. In uniform, covered by the state of emergency in force through most of the summer, they made thousands of arrests and maltreated many of the "suspects". Out of uniform, in the less and less mysterious guise of the "Guardia Civil", they carried out numerous acts of violence against the regime's political opponents, and even carried the battle across the border into France. Most recently, the Government has passed a new anti-terrorist decree increasing police powers, making it obligatory for a number of crimes, and making it an offence to criticise any official actions against suspected or convicted terrorists. Four of Spain's leading news magazines were seized this week within twenty-four hours of the new law coming into force. General Franco showed in February last year that he is quite capable of ignoring appeals from foreign dignitaries, from the Pope downwards, when he allowed the garroting of the anarchist Salvador Puig Antich to go ahead. The practice of garroting is not much admired in this country, but some people here, harassed by terrorism themselves, may be tempted to hope that for once the death penalty will be imposed on terrorists who have been convicted of taking human life in a European country. The arguments for clemency should therefore be recalled. First there are the arguments relating to this particular case, which have been recalled by the International Commission of Jurists. The conviction is based

on a confession made by one of the accused, Señor Garmendia, after he was shot in the head at the time of capture, even though it is admitted that the wound caused permanent brain damage. Señor Garmendia was identified by the police as one of the killers of a member of the Guardia Civil, but four witnesses stated at the trial that he was not one of the two men whom they saw fire the shots. The other accused, Señor Otazgui, is not alleged to have taken part in the killing but only to have helped Señor Garmendia to escape. Secondly, there are the arguments stemming from the general situation. Spain is not a democratic society in which anyone can campaign peacefully for his political ideals. General Franco himself came to power through armed insurrection, and has not hesitated to maintain himself in power by force ever since. Many Spaniards may be grateful to him for maintaining political stability for the past thirty-six years, but the people have not been given the chance to choose between his regime and any alternative. There is a moral difference between terrorism against a regime of that type and terrorism against a freely elected authority. Moreover, although ETA is a ruthless movement, serving no sympathy for its methods, it has at least avoided indiscriminate violence against the population at large such as we are experiencing in this country. Thirdly, there is no sign that General Franco's policy of repression is bringing the Basque problem any nearer solution. On the contrary, his regime by its open contempt of Basque national feelings, is driving even the most moderate Basques to sympathise with ETA. A policy of extreme severity towards terrorists cannot even begin to make sense so long as Basque national aspirations are not allowed non-violent alternative channels.

## COUNSEL FOR THE COUNCIL

Letters in *The Times* criticized the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council for handing of three recent cases, all involving plaintiffs who had been sentenced to death in their own countries, respectively Singapore, Trinidad and Tobago, and Guyana. The criticisms, although recent in detail, basically the same objection. It is that the Judicial Committee is helping to give the seal of respectability to oppressive human laws passed by repressive regimes. It does this, it is said, by taking an excessively restrictive and legalistic approach to the cases which before it, keeping to the legal issues and refusing to entertain any argument sought to point out the moral or political background to the case, and the conditions which the laws in question were based on humanitarian grounds. The Committee was, correspondent wrote "sanctifying executions in the Queen's name". It is unfair. The Judicial Committee was never designed to give a body guiding the development of law. For it to decide cases by legal grounds would assume a new function for it was not created and for it is singularly ill-adapted. When its role in the way of its critics would involve its members in making difficult political judgments on the internal affairs of a sovereign state, and pass into a delicate area of international relations usually left to the Government, does not mean, however, that the Judicial Committee should not, where necessary, criticize the content of a law in the sort of circumstances where an English court would have no hesitation in doing. The Judicial Committee cannot completely change character.

diminishing role in a changed world? The fact that it has also some appellate functions in other areas, ecclesiastical and medical, is of only minimal concern. These could be given to some other body. The Committee was established in 1833 to be the final court of appeal from decisions of the courts of the British Empire. It has functioned on two levels. It has given rulings on the individual cases which have come before it. Secondly, and this has been of far greater importance, it has acted as the guardian of the common law heritage which Britain and her overseas territories share. It has tried to ensure that, even though the details of the laws may differ considerably from country to country, they would be applied according to the principles of English justice. The waning of the British Empire inevitably reduced the Judicial Committee's work and diminished its influence. Many former British possessions severed the Privy Council link when they became independent. India and Pakistan did so within two years of the 1948 partition. Canada, unhappy about some of the Judicial Committee's decisions, stopped using it in 1949. The years of African independence in the early 1960s gave many more states the opportunity to cut the tie. Ghana, Tanganyika, Nigeria, Kenya and Zambia all opted out during this period. More recently, since 1970, Sri Lanka has decided no longer to use the Judicial Committee. It has consistently sent the largest single number of appeals to the Committee. Australia's state courts and its High Court, always good customers, are still wrangling with the present government over whether they too should stop using the Judicial Committee's services. Apart from Australia, only nine independent Commonwealth countries retain their right to have their appeals heard by the Judicial Committee: Bahamas, Fiji, Cambodia, Jamaica, Malaysia, Mauritius, New Zealand, Singapore and Trinidad and Tobago. Barbados is also on that list, but has not made use of the facility for many years. The other territories which the Judicial Committee serves are in some form of constitutionally dependent relationship with the Crown: they include Hong Kong, the West Indies Associated States, the Channel Islands, Gibraltar and the Seychelles. The number of Commonwealth appeals disposed of in 1964 was 70. Five years later, in 1969, it was 35. Last year only 28 Commonwealth appeals were completed. The debate over the Committee's attitude to capital criminal cases is relevant to only a small part of its judicial activities. Of the last 60 or so cases which have come before it, only eight have dealt with criminal matters, and only the three which caused the controversy involved the possibility of the death sentence. The majority of cases raise technical legal questions of civil law. A few are of constitutional importance. The most common topics are in the field of contract, negligence, tort, damages, and landlord and tenant.

It appears, on the whole, that the consumers who use the service are satisfied with it. Many of the smaller countries which seek opinion of the Judicial Committee appreciate that they do not themselves have the necessary depth within their own judiciary and legal profession to deal with the more difficult questions of interpretation. It does not follow that, because fewer and fewer countries come to the Privy Council, its advantages should be denied to those who, finding it of benefit, wish to continue the arrangement. Unless there is some positive reason for doing away with it, the Judicial Committee should be retained. There is no such reason. It still performs a useful role in steering the common law. Its judgments are still of great persuasive value even to those common law countries which no longer have ties with it. Its positive influence over the law as a whole is greater than is suggested by the number of cases it hears. Finally, and this is no mean boast, it costs the taxpayer virtually nothing. Its judges are paid for as law lords and its supporting staff can be counted on the fingers of one hand.

ected Cabinet  
Donald McGregor  
is kind of Mr Harvey (letter, 27) to ascribe to me the idea a Cabinet should be elected by members of Parliament. I have elected the Leader of the parliamentary party but the not just mine and is not new. Ideas are the fruits of analysis and thought about problems and it would, have been more enlightening Harvey shown in what way question would cause, as he a recipe for potential confusion. I'm afraid, with Mr Harvey and any of his second sentence pose this. Who decides what od government? Wise on? And what are "practical policies"? Practical for

whom? What are "accepted principles", mine or Mr Harvey's? I am sure that what I know from experience and the conclusions I draw from that are quite different from those of Mr Harvey. As a socialist I believe that every human being has a right to be allowed to develop his own individuality and personality and that the "accepted principles" of capitalism prevent the masses of people from fully developing their potentialities. Unfortunately, people, at least some of them, do accept the capitalist system which at the present time presents us with the startling and inhuman fact that while one third of the world population live in comparative affluence, two thirds live on or below the poverty line. That is not an "accepted principle" for any socialist or, for that matter, for many who are not socialists. I hope that Mr Harvey will try to see my point of view even if he rejects it, but which recognizes that

democracy means the acceptance of a majority of all people, not just of some people. If a body of people is responsible enough to elect one man, it must surely be capable of electing more than one. All the positions of a cabinet carry a heavy load of responsibility. Changes have come about over the past thirty years. Not all of them have been to the advantage of all our people. By developing a much more democratic party we in the Campaign for Labour Party Democracy believe that we shall, at the same time, develop a more adequate party which will bring about the changes of benefit to everybody, even millionaires. Yours sincerely,  
DONALD MCGREGOR,  
Chairman, Campaign for Labour Party Democracy,  
28 Trumps Green Avenue,  
Virginia Water,  
Surrey.  
August 28.

## The Community Land Bill

From Mr Maurice Ash  
Sir, Mr Rossi's letter (August 25) provokes the question: when will the political parties cease their ideological battle over our defenceless bodies? They have bedevilled the land issue. They oppose impracticably with impracticability the Conservatives' land development tax, say, with the Socialists' faith in local authorities as developers—and not a quarter of ownership and power to the neglect of use and everyday need. If we support the central principle of the Community Land Bill—the public ownership of development land—it is not for ideological reasons, but because this should secure the very rationale of planning. This rationale consists, simply, in the making and remaking of our towns, cities and villages—and in doing so by taking thought, rather than by default. Because this rationale is not (cannot be) governed by monetary values, but by dialogue between citizens—and therefore cannot be satisfied by any system dependent on the primacy of developers' actions—Mr Rossi's letter cannot commend itself to us. Very nearly, however, the Community Land Bill failed the same test: the arbitrary power of local authorities merely being substituted for the market. As amended, to be sure, we can gladly endorse the Bill. Yet the Government still needs to have it said for it, that a logical consequence of these amendments must be, sooner rather than later, the elimination of all the costly delays and pettiness of the present negative planning system. So, whilst one can spare some sympathy for Mr Rossi, embroiled in the party battle, it is to your forum, Sir, I would address the real question. Why have we had to endure this middle? If the Government, as individuals considerate men, have now listened to reason, why after a charade of consultation did they at first present a Bill that was its own worst enemy, one that even now, far from having jeopardized a civilized solution? How are they advised? By what driven? Why is this country cursed by such unrealistic politics, so divorced from the ordinary needs of life? Yours faithfully,  
MAURICE ASH,  
Chairman of Executive,  
Town and Country Planning Association,  
17 Carlton House Terrace, SW1.  
August 27.

## House of Commons china

From Mr Brian Tilt  
Sir, I have always held the view that one should not criticize any decision without knowing the underlying factors involved, but I am so disturbed by the report that the House of Commons catering subcommittee is proposing to purchase some £20,000 of china from abroad, I feel I must comment. Admittedly the German firm said to be involved supplies a very good quality product, but so also do our English fine china manufacturers, who rightly have the reputation of being the best in the world. I query the desirability of so much money being spent for the House of Commons dining rooms at the present time, but this may well be necessary. To spend it abroad, however, is a waste of money. The production of which our English potteries excel should never even be contemplated. For the House of Commons, of all places, to have its meals served on foreign china would cast an appalling damage on the reputation of the quality of things made in this country. The House of Commons should, I consider, encourage the country's trading and do all they can to assist our manufacturers and traders to be successful. Sometimes one wonders whether it is so motivated. I can only hope that the situation is not irretrievable and that those who dine in future at the House of Commons will do so off English china, as do an appreciable proportion of those people in the world who recognize and appreciate fine quality. Yours faithfully,  
BRIAN M. TILT,  
Chairman Thomas Goode & Co (London) Ltd,  
South Audley Street, W1.  
August 28.

## British tractors

From Mr John Wakeham,  
Conservative MP for Maldon  
Sir, The reason farmers buy foreign tractors is very largely that we do not produce enough tractors in the United Kingdom to meet the demand. The share of the United Kingdom market obtained by United Kingdom made tractors is reducing and reducing and it will be a very difficult market to win back. Industrial relations have a lot to do with it and some of us care desperately. Yours, etc.  
JOHN WAKEHAM,  
House of Commons.

## Detached Prime Ministers

From Mr J. A. Kenleton  
Sir, Mr Geoffrey Smith discussing Tory reconciliation has just quoted Gladstone's comment on Peel after 1846: "Prime Ministers detached are dangerous as great rats would be dangerous floating unmoored in a harbour." He will not need reminding that, with three minor exceptions, the party was in opposition for a generation. Yours faithfully,  
J. A. KENLETON,  
The School of History,  
The University of Liverpool,  
6 Abercromby Square,  
PO Box 147, Liverpool.

## Farming policy: self-sufficiency in food

From Mr D. A. Chance  
Sir, Last year Lord Rothschild appealed in *The Times* for a "farming policy and not a political football". Since then a Government White Paper *Food from our own Resources*, has called for a 21 per cent increase in annual production. Farmers know that this is a target easily within their reach. The average self-sufficiency figures for Commonwealth countries are 91 per cent. The Dutch, for example, have a performance figure of 123 per cent and we, with fewer to feed per acre than the Dutch, are bottom of the league at 54 per cent. We should be planning towards self-sufficiency in temperate foods, and because of the unpredictability of the weather, this means not being so terrified of a surplus, but planning what to do with it as it occurs. And what is happening instead? A recent survey by the Country Landowners' Association on capital investment in farms shows a cutback of 61 per cent of last year. Live-stock numbers, particularly dairy cows, down in some cases by 11 per cent. The proposed increase in the price of milk is not sufficient to halt this downward trend, and if the manifesto promise to abolish the so-called tied cottage system is carried through by the Labour Government, it will persuade many dairy farmers who employ labour to switch finally from milk to any other crop—hopefully tourism. My group of farmers, with membership covering 120,000 acres in Norfolk, buys collectively. A turnover of some millions of pounds gives the members a measure of the confidence in the agricultural community. This group has formed with others, marketing companies for its principal products, except for those such as sugar beet and milk, which are contracted nationally at Government fixed prices. Our potato marketing company, for example, had built up an export market for its surplus reaching at one time 45 per cent of potatoes sold abroad. This year the Potato Marketing Board, which markets no

potatoes but controls acreage by a strict quota system, has got its sums wrong again, and we must prepare for a shortage. Fine for a few farmers and, of course, the importers, but for the country as a whole it is crazy. We face a reduction of 60,000 acres, a year in available land for agriculture, and a steady falling labour force. My group training officer reports that schools careers officers rarely recommend agricultural work except for the "C" stream of school leavers, and he can find places for very few trainees on our farms. In reality, we need men who can operate and maintain some of the most sophisticated machinery in industry; and by industrial standards, they are underpaid. But while I believe that the problem of production could be overcome if the rundown was halted now by restoring a measure of confidence to the industry, it is in the area of pricing and market control, where politics take over, that chaos begins. The army of committees, inspectors, officials and ancillary bodies, in the days of Empire preference, continues to flourish and prepares to march into Europe, as the production force dwindles. This army might just as well have joined forces with the Noble Duke of York in the first place, as attempt to interpret the directives of successive Governments. It is too impossible for politicians of all parties to agree on a 10 year policy for agriculture, target say, 90 per cent self-sufficiency. I am sure that the NFU, the NUA and the food processing industry would be ready to assist a small committee empowered to get on and carry it through. Or do we continue to shuffle along at around 50 per cent while the lesson is relearned that the day of cheap food from abroad really are over for ever? Yours faithfully,  
DAVID CHANCE, Chairman,  
Loddon Farmers Ltd,  
5 Church Plain,  
Loddon, Norwich.  
August 26.

## Housing and party politics

From Mr Richard Balfe  
Sir, Horace Cutler, apparently taking his cue from Prince Philip's recent speech, calls for the removal of housing from the sphere of party politics (*Times*, August 11). The analysis and suggestions which follow, however, resemble nothing so much as Tory party policy. Mr Cutler sees the most acute need for political action to lie in the field of making better use of existing housing stock, rather than that of providing new buildings, except in the private sector where, given the right conditions, developers will be able to meet all needs. The naivety of this view can be appreciated simply by looking at the condition of much of the existing stock and by the rate of obsolescence. New buildings are essential and in many areas it can only be provided by the public sector. How many private developers are interested in urban renewal? Given the conditions which Mr Cutler demands must will use their freedom of action to develop luxury flats in inner city areas or boxes in green fields. Of course this results in high public sector costs in London but Mr Cutler might have mentioned that one of the reasons for this is the high cost of land. The Housing Development Community Land Bill will at least curb this cost by putting an end to speculation. It is fortunate that impressions of the results of the last boom period for private development are still too fresh to allow many people to be taken in by Mr Cutler's dangerous nonsense. The spiralling house prices in the years 1970-73 put owner occupation completely out of reach for many potential buyers. All this is not to say that the answer lies entirely with increased building by local authorities and that there is no need to make better use of existing stock. The latter should be part of any housing policy. In Mr Cutler's view, however, better use appears to be directed only at the private rented sector and the public sector. Although I would not claim that occupancy rates based simply on the ratio between persons and rooms are a satisfactory measure of needs, an examination of the data produced in the 1971 census shows under-occupation to be

at its greatest in the owner occupied sector. Owner occupiers are subsidized by public money, why should there not be incentives for them to move to smaller accommodation? I welcome Mr Cutler's call for more mobility in the public sector because I have long believed that undue restrictions have been placed on the personal freedom of local authority tenants. I suspect, however, that he is not interested in developments such as the Co-operative Allocations System which is currently being discussed by the Greater London Council and the London Boroughs Association, instead Mr Cutler would undoubtedly prefer a simple pricing mechanism so that tenancies are allocated according to capacity to pay rather than need. Mr Cutler is similarly concerned about under-occupation in the private rented sector, though, once again, it is less than that of the owner occupied sector, in fact it is here that the reverse problem, overcrowding, is at its most severe. Some 31 per cent of those living in rented furnished accommodation do so at a density of more than one person per room. One person per room may sound fairly civilized but only 8 per cent of those in owner occupied property choose to live at the same density. Perhaps Mr Cutler, as well as relaxing rent controls and security of tenure, would like to relax controls on houses in multiple occupation so that even more people can share a bath. The only advantages which private tenants enjoy are access to the market and short term tenure. There is no reason why local authorities cannot offer the same flexibility with, for example, the properties acquired through municipalization. Better still, they could make agreements with private landlords who are unable or unwilling to carry on letting to take short term leases on empty property. This scandal of non-occupation as opposed to under-occupation is not one which needs a great deal of attention from Mr Cutler. Yours faithfully,  
RICHARD A. BALFE, Chairman,  
Housing Development Committee,  
Greater London Council,  
County Hall, SE1.

## University salaries

From Dr B. S. Morgan  
Sir, The attention you gave to the present plight of British universities in your editorial "Hard times ahead for universities" (August 25) is to be welcomed. I must, however, object to your portrayal of the university teacher as greedy and motivated only by self-interest. No lecture of my acquaintance resembles the cuts in university budgets but most are rightly concerned about the way in which they are at present being imposed and the breakdown of the quinquennial system. University teachers' concern over the salary issue goes some way beyond narrow self-interest; they fear that the present scandalous level of remuneration is threatening the distinction of British universities. It is true that higher education in the United States is in a parlous condition and wholesale emigration is unlikely; there is still, however, a welcome for the very best. Moreover, emigration is not the only solution for the disillusioned academic. University salaries are now so out of line with those in comparable occupations in this country that the present trickle of staff away from the university departments, which is now discernible, may well become a stream. I do not wish to bore your readers with "invidious" comparisons with these occupations, suffice it to state that I estimate that I could increase my salary by at least £2,000 per annum in the Civil Service, local government or a polytechnic. Most university teachers are prepared to accept a somewhat lower salary than their qualifications could command elsewhere in return for the quality, stimulation, and

freedom of the academic life, but in many cases the threshold of how much less is acceptable has now been passed. Staff that leave will become increasingly difficult to replace. The best students in the Geography department of which I am a member, are now undoubtedly shunning research, the usual route to an academic appointment, in favour of entering the Civil Service and professions. This year, in fact, the department has university bursaries for its quota of post graduate awards for the first time. There has undoubtedly been an erosion of academic standards but this cannot be totally divorced from the salary position as your editorial implies. Perhaps university teachers have contributed few positive ideas about how universities should respond to the new climate of austerity, but I, at least, find it difficult to focus attention on such issues at the same time as trying to decide whether to change career in my early thirties. Yours faithfully,  
B. S. MORGAN,  
17 Amesbury Road,  
Epping, Essex.

## Ownership of historic wrecks

From Mrs Margaret Rule  
Sir, Recent correspondence has highlighted the unsatisfactory state of British nautical archaeology. The Council for Nautical Archaeology was formed in 1964 and for the last decade it has been active in establishing standards of work in underwater archaeology and in encouraging the proper recording and conservation of archaeological finds. In recent years it has concentrated on the problems of protection of nautical archaeological sites, and it played an active role on a committee set up by the Department of Trade in 1970 to investigate British law on wreck. One result has been the short term legislation (Protection of Wrecks Act 1973) which enables the Under-Secretary of State for Companies, Aviation and Shipping to designate certain wrecks recognized as being of archaeological or historic importance as protected sites. The Act also enables the government to carry out to approved standards under licence from the Department of Trade. This was an enormous step forward, but not the effective long term legislation that archaeologists demand and the public deserves. Recommendations by this Council and other bodies that ownership of all wrecks or wreckage lost more than 100 years ago be vested in the Crown deserve serious consideration. This simple measure would remove completely the requirements of the present law of salvage as defined by the Merchant Shipping Act 1894 which restricts the sale of salvaged goods if no owner can be identified. Many museums are precluded from undertaking conservation work on underwater finds because of the uncertainty as to ownership but if the finds were vested in the Crown and their custody delegated to museums financed from public funds the situation would be simplified. The relatively recent establishment of field units by the Department of the Environment to deal with land rescue sites of archaeological importance, and the increasing commitment of government funds to land archaeology should set the standard for underwater archaeology. There exists a dedicated body of workers within the membership of the British Sub-Aqua Club, but there are no funds to provide amateur teams with the professional archaeologists they need. There is a desperate need for more diving nautical archaeologists in Britain, and the absence of any career structure within either the museums or a government department, who is going to convince an eager undergraduate that his future lies in the murky gloom of British underwater archaeology? Of course, some excellent work is being done, but until the necessary control and finance underwater archaeology is recognized the dedicated few will struggle on financed by the inadequate grant, donation or lecture fee to the detriment of maritime archaeology in this country. Yours faithfully,  
MARGARET RULE,  
Hon Secretary, Council for National Archaeology,  
31-34 Gordon Square, WC1.

## Stranded in Russia

From Mr Alan Sillitoe  
Sir, On June 11, 1974, I wrote an article in your newspaper concerning certain people living in the USSR who wish to be free to leave that country. One person I mentioned was the son of Mrs Dina Roitkov-Fodorovich. She herself, a talented actress, left the Soviet Union with her invalid husband in 1971, and went to live in Israel. Unfortunately these only sons, Yuri, a 25-year-old refrigerator technician, was not allowed to go with them. Since then, despite frequent and eloquent pleas by the mother (who suffered great mental pain throughout this period of separation) and many applications by Yuri himself, all permission for him to leave and join his parents has been refused. I now hear that Mrs Roitkov-Fodorovich has suffered a brain haemorrhage, and is critically ill in hospital. She is probably dying, and there is little time left. I appeal to the humanitarian instincts of whatever Soviet agencies are involved, and ask that Yuri Roitkov-Fodorovich be given immediate leave to go to Israel so that he can visit his mother while there is still time. Yours sincerely,  
ALAN SILLITOE,  
21 The Street,  
Winterton, Kent.  
August 26.

## Yesterday's pleasures

From Mrs Barbara M. Neill  
Sir, Finding 17 different varieties of wild orchids on a chalky down in Hampshire. Fifty years later none remain. Yours faithfully,  
BARBARA M. NEILL,  
Scarlets  
Islip,  
Oxford.

From Miss Millicent Grey  
Sir, The future.  
MILICENT GREY, Aged 94,  
12 Old Well Lane,  
Steeple Aston,  
Oxfordshire.  
August 28.

From Mr John Heir  
Sir, Your front page.  
Yours faithfully  
JOHN HEIR,  
The Old Post Office,  
Jersey, C.I.  
August 28.

From Mr R. F. Hamilton  
Sir, The Fourth Leader.  
Yours faithfully,  
R. F. HAMILTON,  
Sessingham Farmhouse,  
Berkley,  
Nr Folgate,  
Sussex.  
August 27.

## Daily deliveries

From Dr Anthony Richards  
Sir, The post, newspapers, milk, bread and other necessities are delivered most days to households. Why should several vehicles be used for this purpose? Could not a van be designed to discharge all these functions? If the Post Office undertook this responsibility on a commercial basis it might make money. Yours sincerely,  
ANTHONY RICHARDS,  
Blandford, Dorset.







# Merrill Lynch may by-pass NYSE

innumerable "orders" on an inter-dealer basis, and such a system would be the critical blow to the averages.

The Wall Street Journal reported today that Merrill Lynch might bring an anti-trust suit against the NYSE if the exchange did not give the firm permission to go ahead with its odd-lot plan.

NYSE officials say they cannot remember the exchange ever having to face an anti-trust case. Its original opposition to abolishing fixed commissions was crumpled under anti-trust pressures.

There is now a 12 1/2 per cent differential on odd-lot transactions, and Merrill Lynch's plan for dealing in odd-lots of 100 shares would give the firm a considerable edge.

Thus it could reduce purchasing and selling costs for the millions of small investors who often have to trade in small lots because they cannot afford to buy blocks of 100 shares.

# Ministers' aid sought over Lucas job fears

Workers at Lucas Aerospace are trying to arrange meetings with senior government ministers to enlist their support in preventing redundancies within the company.

The Lucas Industries subsidiary has already announced that it is to cut the labour force on its industrial ball screw business from 100 to 347 and subcontractors there more redundancies will fall on the aerospace company's works at Hordle Hemmestad.

Although a spokesman for the company yesterday said that it had no plans for further redundancies, workers are claiming that others among the 2,800 workers at the plant could soon be off-cent.

Yesterday a meeting of workers decided to support the ball screw division in its effort to prevent the run down: to work overtime; and to prevent work from the aerospace company being given to sub-contractors.

Meanwhile, workers in the ball screw division have sent

## New Japanese threat to shipyards forecast

**Employment:** Workers have accused the management of incompetence in the operation of the division, and the company has been accused of receiving a \$2.5m capital investment injection.

**Commentary on the 'workers'** claims, a spokesman for Lucas Aerospace said that the phasing out of production of industrial machine tools involves a product which produces a means of transmitting power and motion at high efficiency levels—reflected in the poor state of the machine tools industry.

**Production of hollows** for aerospace industry applications would, however, be essential.

**We added:** "We are not talking about any further redundancies in the company," but the manufacturing director has already pointed out that any business has to look at its costs and trim its sails when things

## Second oil find in North Sea by Pan Ocean

offerings £65 for supplies which were shipped elsewhere in the EEC. Some returned as sellers of goods. Somebody is picking up money on the way," he said.

Traders said that the ECU had arisen because what was normally the non-EU, because of EEC levies had become profitable. This was because the ECU was a more remunerative market for commodities which responded more quickly to changes in world grain prices than did prices in Britain.

This month no accessionary levies were payable on grain exports to West Germany, where prices are higher than in Britain because of transition to full membership.

## How the markets m

	Bank	Week
Antonia's	1.70	1.64
Christina Sch	39.50	37.20
William Fr	35.00	3.18
William Fr	35.00	12.50
Michael Mick	5.15	7.95
Francis Fr	5.15	5.00
William DM	5.34	5.35
Proce Fr	60.75	67.50
Frank Fr	19.85	19.45
William Fr	187.00	187.00
William Fr	550.00	553.70
William DM	5.70	5.50
Forway Fr	15.85	1.50
William Soc	15.85	34.50
Arthur Red	1.80	1.70
John Pen	125.75	126.75
William Fr	15.85	15.85
William Fr	5.50	2.00
William Fr	3.15	2.00
William DM	5.00	5.00

Notes on small connection bank, not  
 an approved connection by Bank of  
 Italy to travelers' checks and other  
 international currency business.



## PERSONAL INVESTMENT AND FINANCE

## Taxation

## Unmarried mothers in need of a fairer deal?

One has never expected the Inland Revenue to be in the forefront of social progress, but with 'International Women's Year' pressing gamely on, and with the statute book now crammed with Sex Discrimination Acts and Equal Pay provisions, it still comes as something of a shock to discover that Her Majesty's tax collector is still stuck fast in the conventions and prejudices of a bygone era.

The thorough-going feminist will balk at the automatic assumption that her husband is responsible for filling in her tax return form. She will probably think it grossly unfair that only she can claim the children's allowance or tax relief on the mortgage for the joint home.

But, whatever her philosophical differences with the fiscal system, she now has the option of separate taxation and it is unlikely that at the end of the day she will be left with significantly more or less in her pocket, because of the anomalies that remain—as in administrative convenience rather than a Victorian hang-over.

There is one important exception to that, however, which is not so much a matter of discrimination against women as discrimination between different classes of women.

According to the Inland Revenue, a woman who is a dependent relative does not do so if she is an unmarried mother.

Under the present tax regulations, a woman supporting a dependent relative may claim a relief of up to £100 a year. To classify as a dependent relative the person being maintained must be either incapacitated by old age or infirmity or the widowed, divorced or separated mother (or mother-in-law) of the claimant.

On inquiry it transpires that the Inland Revenue adheres closely to these two criteria. The philosophy behind them is that a widowed, divorced or separated mother has, at some time in her life had someone to support her. So maintenance from a son or daughter (or son-in-law, but not a daughter-in-law) is regarded as replacing that of a former or deceased husband.

But the unmarried mother, regardless of age or situation, is considered to have managed without such support and there is, therefore, no case for replacement in the same sense.

And if the unmarried woman is under retirement age the claimant will have a tough time persuading the Inland Revenue of his or her right to tax relief, since it will be necessary to claim under the first category, old age or incapacity. Furthermore, the mere fact that the

Margaret Walters

## Talking shop

## Beating the increase in parcels postage

The rise in parcel rates, due with other postal increases from September 29, is likely to have a disastrous effect on some households' Christmas budgets. For many people use parcel post only at Christmas and do not calculate the charges in advance. They may easily be embarrassed on arrival at the Post Office by the new 30 per cent increase (on top of the 50 per cent rise imposed in March), finding their purses emptied by the steep new rates.

Further confusion is likely from the change to metric tariffs for parcels, which takes place simultaneously. It is already difficult enough to work out postage prices expressed in lbs from the wide variety of tariff scales in operation.

The change to metric standards, taking place on the same day as the price increases, makes any detailed comparison with the old rates almost impossible.

One obvious way of beating the increases is to send fewer cards and parcels by post. This is what a lot of people did last year. The greeting card industry reported sales of 992 million Christmas cards in 1974 but say that of these only 750 million went through the post, indicating that the rest had either been sent by hand or by air.

So one answer may be to take your presents with you or send them with a friend.

Another, and perhaps more constructive method is to make more efficient use of the Post Office services to save costs. Two ways of doing this may be to increase the size of your parcels and where overseas mail is concerned, to post early to take advantage of surface rather than air rates.

Because of the way the tariffs are calculated, it is often far cheaper to post one large parcel than several small ones. The cost of sending 10 parcels each weighing, say, 2lb to the same address at £3.70 (at current prices), for example, is more than three times that of sending one 20lb parcel at £1.03.

It makes sense, therefore, to tie presents for several members of the same family together into a single parcel.

The maximum weight the Post Office will handle is 22lb (or 10 kilos) both for overseas and inland postage. On the present tariff system the grade for inland postage which applies to the Isle of Man, the Channel Islands and the Irish Republic as well as to addresses within the United Kingdom, are in 2lb (or 1 kilo) steps. They start at parcels weighing not over 2lb and ascend to those weighing not over 22lb.

Overseas mail is graded differently. For surface post, the steps rise in weights of not over 2lb (1kg), 7lb (3kg), and 11lb (5kg) to a maximum of 22lb (10kg) with a further restriction on size of 36in in length and 6ft 7in in length and girth combined.

Air parcel rates are calculated at so much per lb for the first lb with a separate charge for each lb or part of a lb thereafter. There can be a very sharp increase between the various steps and it is well worth while weighing your parcels before taking them to the Post Office to see if cutting down on packing material helps to bring them within a lower weight category. Possibly even a fraction of an ounce could result in savings of £1 or more where overseas postage is concerned.

It is also important to ask for the correct category of postage. The present system, and the metric scale follows roughly the same pattern, contains five main categories of overseas mail.

THE NEW COST OF POSTING A PARCEL						
DESTINATION FROM LONDON	Present price	New price	Present price	New price	Present price	New price
	10 lb	5 1/2 kilo	10 lb	5 kilos	22 lb	10 kilos
Australia (Melbourne)						
Surface	1.70	1.80	3.95	4.50	6.40	6.75
Air	2.80	3.05	4.95	5.55	31.10	31.55
America (New York)						
Surface	1.45	1.55	3.35	3.55	5.50	5.80
Air	1.45	1.75	8.85	8.95	18.25	16.95
India (Delhi)						
Surface	1.85	1.95	3.45	3.85	5.40	5.70
Air	2.05	2.35	7.45	8.65	14.65	15.66
Europe (Paris)						
Surface	1.60	1.70	2.55	2.70	3.65	3.85
Air	2.00	2.90	3.35	5.15	5.15	7.66
United Kingdom						
Minimum Charge (Ordinary)	37	48	70	98	1.09	1.42
(Local)	30	39	63	89	1.01	1.32
* Starting price only—non-parcel scales more applicable for this weight.						

\* Starting price only—non-parcel scales more applicable for this weight.

There are no cost savings in posting early to addresses within the United Kingdom, although there are many people who are aware of some financial incentive should be introduced. But again, nomenclature is important.

For example, it is possible to send a parcel weighing up to 10lbs by the second class letter service at a charge of 24p compared with 37p for the minimum parcel post rate. Inconceivably, describing the category of service you want could therefore cost you 13p or more at current prices.

On the parcel post service there are two categories of pricing—"local" and "ordinary". Local parcels are those which are for an address in the same post town as that of the office of posting. At current rates they cost 7p less for weights of up to 12lbs and 8p less for 12 to 22lbs than the ordinary parcel service.

Information about the new postal charges will shortly be available from post offices. The two key leaflets are Postal Rates Inland and Postal Rates Overseas Compendium.

With the new increase it is well worthwhile to copy of these and study before even starting to Christmas shopping. It may be that the cost of your present is greater than the price of the gift itself.

Finally, it may be a consideration of the Post Office part of the Christmas shopping. The Post Office is designed to take the Post Office leaving with packages of a minimum of 23lb or more.

If you are sending goods, like books, or other of your recipe the same town and to a consolidated gift really large parcel, can be achieved in a number of ways.

To use the advice of a manager. They or 104 towns in the U.K. and their address and the telephone for your area.

British Rail also handles small parcels. Costs vary by destination, but it is possible to collect from address and deliver field for 68p (minimum).

At the lighter end of the scale, British Rail service is a more expensive post, but for the heavier weight parcels well pay to make about a Rail Express collection and deliver the local railway.

Patricia

There is also a special cheap rate for books and printed papers weighing up to 11lbs (5kg).

For larger parcels, as the chart shows, the savings are in opting for "surface" rather than "air" transport. The disadvantage is in the length of time the parcel takes to reach its destination.

A parcel sent by surface mail to India, for example, may take four to eight weeks to arrive, compared with less than a week for the air service.

The cost savings, however, by using the slower method are very large. As the table shows, a 10lb parcel sent by air will cost more than twice as much as one sent "surface". Thus, for overseas post, it pays to plan well ahead.

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## Unit trust performance

UNIT TRUSTS: Medium and income funds (progress this year and the past three years). Unit holder index: 1,416.0; rise from January, 1975: 47.7%.

Average change offer to bid, net income included, over past 12 months: +22.6%; over 3 years: -30.2%.

Statistics supplied by Money Management and Unitholder, 30 Finsbury Square, London, EC2.

MEDIUM	A	B	Key Private	17.5	-42.4
Friends Provident	54.5	-28.6	National Domestic	17.7	-48.5
Hill Samuel Capital	51.4	-28.5	L & C Unit Trust	17.5	-26.8
Hill Samuel British	50.2	-27.7	Family Fund	17.1	-27.7
Schroder General	48.8	-36.6	Bishopsgate Prog F	16.8	-39.5
Barclay	48.6	-36.6	National Growth	16.7	-39.5
Hill Samuel Security	47.9	-24.7	National Commercial	16.7	-35.2
Tyndall Cuyne	46.7	-37.5	Emblem Fund F	16.2	-51.9
NPI Growth Acctm F	46.2	-28.1	Slater Brit General	15.4	-45.8
Equity & Life	45.9	-28.9	National Second	15.4	-37.7
National West Growth	45.8	-24.9	Target Consumer	13.1	-47.8
Rowan Securities	45.6	-	Minster	10.0	-46.8
Lloyds Bank Second	43.3	-29.5	Arrow Capital F	9.0	-44.0
British Life Balanced	42.9	-31.9	National Growth	8.5	-44.0
Union General	42.6	-34.6	Oceanic General	8.5	-51.9
Lloyds Bank First	42.4	-33.5	National Group Provi	8.3	-43.8
TSB General	42.0	-30.7	Oceanic Growth	7.5	-38.6
British Life	40.6	-30.7	Equity & Life	6.5	-47.7
Marlborough	40.5	-10.2	Ionian Growth F	6.1	-49.5
Colenso	39.4	-	Jacot Sec Leads	5.3	-44.8
Union Capital	38.7	-35.7	Glen Fund	4.2	-47.6
S & P General	37.5	-34.6	Abbey Income	4.2	-47.6
Lloyds Life Accum	37.0	-34.6	Private Portfolio	-2.2	-54.4
Pearl Mountain	36.5	-33.9	Great Winchester M	-3.2	-55.1
National D	36.3	-26.3	Piccadilly Inc/Grow	-3.2	-52.5
Buckingham	36.3	-17.3	State Brit Capital C	-4.4	-61.2
Mutual "Blue Chip"	36.1	-26.5	Compositional Grwth	-7.5	-62.4
S & P Ebor General	36.1	-40.6	Portfolio Growth	-19.6	-60.3
Canille General	35.8	-19.2			
Utter Bank Growth	35.8	-19.2			
Abbey General	35.3	-32.5			
Allied Capital	35.3	-29.4			
Helix	35.3	-29.4			
Capital Priority	33.1	-38.9			
Brown Shipley	32.7	-12.7			
Union Trustee	32.5	-40.9			
Equitas	32.1	-38.5			
Stronhold Priority	32.1	-38.5			
Allied Growth & Inc	32.0	-29.8			
M & G Trustee	31.9	-32.0			
Widder Growth F	31.9	-32.0			
Hambro Fund	31.3	-34.6			
Reserve Reserves	31.3	-37.2			
Mutual Security Plus	31.2	-29.8			
Carlisle F	30.9	-30.9			
S & P Second	30.4	-24.3			
National Scot Units	30.3	-29.0			
Felician	30.2	-30.2			
Intel	30.1	-21.7			
G and A	29.6	-31.9			
National Consolid	29.6	-20.0			
Prudential	29.3	-36.7			
Stewart British	29.3	-36.7			
Target Thistle	28.3	-33.3			
National Hundred	28.4	-24.6			
Proflite	28.4	-21.7			
Barbican	28.2	-41.5			
Shenley	28.0	-			
Allied First	27.9	-22.4			
M & G General	27.9	-30.4			
Union "500"	27.8	-34.5			
Merlin	27.8	-34.7			
Wickmoor	27.8	-			
Quadrant F	26.9	-29.4			
National Century	26.9	-29.4			
S & P Scotshares	26.5	-33.2			
Cabot F	26.1	-37.8			
Electrical & Indust	25.9	-30.0			
Endeavour	25.8	-			
Trades Union	25.5	-35.3			
M & G Midland	25.5	-37.2			
Target Professional	25.0	-35.0			
Franklin Cap F	24.5	-35.0			
Tyndall Capital	24.5	-35.0			
M & G Sec General	22.9	-21.9			
Abacus Giants	22.2	-41.6			
Gartmore British	21.8	-			
Selig Capital	21.8	-			
Clyde General	20.7	-35.6			
Barclaytrust Invest	20.3	-			
Kleinwort Benson F	20.0	-22.3			
Slater Walker Growth	20.0	-22.3			
Henderson Ind Assets	19.9	-22.4			
Target Equity	19.5	-39.3			
Friars House M	19.4	-			
Discretionary F	19.1	-34.3			
National Security	19.0	-34.3			

A: Change over one year to bid, net income reinvested.  
B: Change over three years offer to bid, net income reinvested.  
Both taken to: August 28, 1975.  
M: Trust valued monthly.  
F: Trust valued every two weeks.

## Insurance

## In case your house has to be rebuilt...

The insurance industry has a happy knack of baffling many of its policyholders on comparatively simple points. In messages we keep this up because so often, there is no common practice, and individual insurers change their approach from time to time.

As an example, one can take the value for which an owner-occupier should insure his house. Here, it is really immaterial whether a building society arranges the insurance or the owner arranges it.

Basically, you need to insure your house for the cost of rebuilding it. Forget all about the market value. That is determined by supply and demand and, of course, includes the value of the site—which need not be insured.

Lately, in many areas, houses have been selling on the open market for less than it would cost to rebuild them. That situation is unlikely to last for very long, and while you might be able to do some pocketing if you house should be insured to the ground, since you will be able to claim no more than the sum insured. In practice, it is most unlikely that your house will be a total loss.

Partial losses are much more frequent. The use of a sum insured is not so much a protection for oneself as a device by which the insurer can make sure that the premium charged increases as building costs rise, with no increase in the rate of premium charged.

A few household policies (mostly those underwritten at Lloyd's) do contain the average clause: its effect is that if your house is under-insured at the time of loss or damage, the claim (however small it may be) will be scaled down in the proportion as the under-insurance.

Normally, insurers incorporate a warranty in the contract to the effect that one is

insuring for the full cost of rebuilding. In the event of serious under-insurance, the company could void the policy altogether. In fact, it is more likely to settle the claim on an ex-gratia basis as if average had been applied.







§ Ford bargains are permitted on two previous days.

هكذا امن الرجل















